

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

140915Z Aug 01

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PAGE 01 HARARE 02395 140918Z
ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	CIAE-00	INL-00
	DODE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	H-01	TEDE-00
	IO-00	LAB-01	L-00	NSAE-00	OIC-02	OPIC-01	PA-00
	PRS-00	P-00	SP-00	SS-00	STR-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00
	USIE-00	R-00	IIP-00	PRM-01	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00

/008W

-----11EA8B 140930Z /38

FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9455
INFO NSC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS HARARE 002395

SIPDIS

AF/PD FOR COX, ROBERTSON, AF/S FOR KRAFT, AF/P, INR/R/MR,

NSC FOR JENDAYI FRAZER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ZI](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION RAMSEY CLARK AND ZIMBABWE- HARARE

[1](#)1. THE INDEPENDENT WEEKLY "THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE" DEDICATED ITS AUGU EDITORIAL TO SPEAK AGAINST THE PROPOSED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AN PROTECTION OF PRIVACY BILL. THE CONTROVERSIAL BILL COULD BECOME B THE END OF THE YEAR. UNDER HEADLINE "MOYOL FUTILE WAR," THE PAPER COMMENTS:

S

"PERHAPS RAMSEY CLARK, A FORMER AMERICAN ATTORNEY-GENERAL, CAPTURED T ESSENCE OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS MORE THA

N MOST OF TODAY SCHOLARS WHEN, IN 1977, HE STATED: 'A RIGHT IS NOT WHAT SOMEONE GIVES IT IS WHAT NO ONE CAN TAKE FROM YOU-' AS ZIMBABWE FACES UP TO ITS MOS DEFINING MOMENT POLITICALLY, CLARK'S WORDS MUST SURELY TROUBLE ALL GO AND WOMEN IN THE LAND AS RIGHTS JUST TO CLING TO POWER. JONATHAN MOYO, ONCE THE GOVERNMENT'S CHIEF FOE AND NOW ITS MOST LOYAL PROPAGANDIST, IS LEADIN HAS BECOME THE MOST

[1](#)3.

VICIOUS CAMPAIGN EVER TO SILENCE ALL DIVERGENT VOICES, CRUCIALLY ZIMB INDEPENDENT MEDIA, AHEAD OF A LANDMARK PRESIDENTIAL BALLOT THAT THREA TO BURY HIM AND HIS AGEING (SIC) MASTERS . . . MOYO HAS COME TO SYMBO THROUGH HIS HIGH-HANDEDNESS AND IRRESPONSIBLE UTTERANCES ALL THAT IS AND BAD WITH A GOVERNMENT THAT HAS UTTERLY FAILED ITS CITIZENS . . . AFTER WHIPPING UP A FRENZY OF EMOTIONS AGAINST ALL WHO WISH UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 HARARE 02395 140918Z
AND WANT ZIMBABWE PROSPER AND BECOME PART OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD, HE IS RACING ENACT A LAW AGAINST THE MEDIA WHICH HE KNOWS RUNS COUNTER TO THE NATI

BASIC FREEDOMS . . . LET IT BE KNOWN THAT AN INDIVIDUAL'S UNFETTERED TO RECEIVE AND IMPART INFORMATION, WHICH HE IS SEEKING TO CURTAIL, IS CARDINAL PLANK OF ANY DEMOCRACY AND CIVILIZED GOVERNANCE AND THAT ZIMBABWEANS DESERVE NO LESS AND NO MORE.

"MOYOLS ATTEMPT TO GAG THE MEDIA AND TO PREVENT IT FROM DOING ITS NAT DUTY OF HIGHLIGHTING ZIMBABWE'S GLARING INJUSTICES, LAWLESSNESS AND VIOLENCE, CORRUPTION AND OTHER ILLS WILL FAIL SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY HAV BASIS IN LAW. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE ENTRENCHED RIGHTS (THAT) HE W TO TRAMPLE UPON ARE GOD-GIVEN AND WILL ALWAYS REMAIN SO. THE UPCOMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION . . . WILL BE FATALLY FLAWED IF THE NEW ANTI-DEMOCRACY LEGISLATION IS APPROVED . . . AS AMERICA'S INCOMING AMBASSADOR TO ZIMBABWE, JOSEPH SULLIVAN, BLUNTLY TOLD THE GOVERNMENT WEEK: I . . . WE CANNOT HAVE GOOD RELATIONS (WITH ZIMBABWE) UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT ACTS TO END VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION AND RESTORES THE RUL LAW AND RESPECTS THE FREEDOM TO OPERATE OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND DEMO INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING AN INDEPENDENT MEDIA, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZAT AND THE JUDICIARY . . . I THERE YOU ARE MOYO. ALL ZIMBABWEANS AND THE TRUE FRIENDS AROUND THE GLOBE WANT

THE SIMPLE BUT CRUCIAL THINGS TO B BUT YOUR GOVERNMENT COULD CARE
LESS."

HOOKS

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PAGE 04 HARARE 02395 140918Z
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